



UNIVERSE

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MORECI
JUNG
SOBREIRO

NIGHTWING

YOU
SURE YOU
DON'T NEED
MY HELP?

WE'RE
FINE!!

Jorge Jimenez
2018
SANCHEZ

THERE
CAN BE ONLY ONE
FASTEST MAN
ALIVE!

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The FLASH

FLASH WAR

DC
UNIVERSE

WRITTEN BY JOSHUA WILLIAMSON
ART BY HOWARD PORTER

A FIVE-PART STORYLINE
BEGINNING MAY

DC
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MORECI
JUNG
SOBREIRO

NIGHTWING



Here's where I'm at in life:
up until last week, I thought
"Netflix and chill" was
the name of a new café
in Blüdhaven.*

I don't get out
all that much.

But tonight--tonight's
my night to do some
Netflixing and chilling
or...whatever.

*TECHNICALLY, THIS IS WHERE
DICK WAS IN LIFE BEFORE
NIGHTWING #34.--K.K. & TAY

OKAY,
THE POWER'S ON,
I'M CONNECTED TO
THE INTERNET...WHEN
DOES THE RED
SCREEN POP
UP?

I CAN
HAVE AN
ADVANCED DEGREE
IN FORENSICS, BUT
CAN'T FIGURE
OUT THE--



Don't answer
it, Dick. You
know he's
going to want
something, so
don't answer--

Damian



HEY THERE,
DAMIAN.

Mmmhmmm...
Oh, **THE LEAGUE
OF ASSASSINS?**
IS THAT SO?

Mmmhmmm.

YOU
DON'T SAY. IN
GOTHAM?

WELL,
THE THING IS,
I REALLY HAVE
MY HANDS FULL
IN BLÜDHAVEN AT
THE MOMENT.
THE, uh...

...THE **RED
TERROR?**

NO,
IT'S NOT
MADE UP.

WAIT,
WAIT--HOLD ON.
SOMEONE KEEPS
TEXTING ME. ONE
SECOND.



YEAH,
DAMIAN, I'M
HERE.

NO, IT
WASN'T MY
GIRLFRIEND
TEXTING
ME.

For the record, I don't even have a girlfriend. Because of situations like this one. I'm in my mid-twenties and I don't have a single relationship with a person who doesn't have an alter ego.

WOULD
YOU JUST BE
QUIET? FOR ONE
SECOND, STOP
TALKING?

I'LL
BE THERE
IN THIRTY
MINUTES.



Well, there goes my loooooong overdue night off. It's not like I need ways to connect with people my age. I'm sure they're also interested in crime-fighting tactics, faking your own death and global espionage.

I'll just head back to Gotham City instead. Back to fighting the League of Assassins.

Just like old times.



I know what Bruce would say if he were here.

He'd explain that people like us don't get time off, that donning a mask isn't a job, it's a way of life, etcetera, etcetera.

The thing is, I want to be Bruce, but I don't want to be Bruce.

I don't want my standard for leisure to be "that time I had a beer."

WAY TO BE **ALERT**, NINJAS!





Bruce will never have free time, ever, because he's always needed.

In all our years together, I never once saw him *hesitate* to answer a call.

No matter how tired, how physically beaten he was, he was *always* there.

It almost makes me feel selfish for wanting to have time of my own--because Bruce is right...



...you become a certain kind of hero, someone will always need you.



YOU KNOW, I DIDN'T ASK YOU HERE SO YOU COULD SHOW OFF YOUR *CIRCUS MOVES*, NIGHTWING.

KKRRK

Someone like,
say, *Damian*.

He's like my little brother...if my little brother were a tightly wound, highly trained assassin who could kill you with, like, a single sheet of paper.

"OH, HEY, NIGHTWING, THANKS FOR ANSWERING MY CALL AND COMING TO HELP. I REALLY APPRECIATE IT."

"NO PROBLEM, ROBIN. I'M SO GLAD WE HAVE THIS RELATIONSHIP BUILT ON MUTUAL APPRECIATION AND RESPECT."

IT'S LIKE YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW ME.

GUYS!
HEY, GUYS!

THE NOBLE, THE OBNOXIOUS & THE INEPT

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NIGHTWING CREATED BY MARV WOLFGMAN & GEORGE PÉREZ



SORRY I'M LATE, BUT I'M HERE!

And then there's Arsenal--former Green Arrow sidekick, current Titan--one of my best friends in the world. He...he means well.

I'M HERE...
->Phew-> WHAT'D I MISS?

NOTHING, BUDDY. YOU'RE GOOD.

WHAT THE-- YOU INVITED HIM?!

These two couldn't be more different, though they have one thing in common:



Both have spent most of their superhero careers following someone else's lead.

WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT? I GUARANTEE-- I **GUARANTEE**--HE MESSES THIS UP.

FIRST OF ALL, YOU'RE A KID, SO BE QUIET. KIDS DON'T HAVE A SAY. SECOND--



--I THOUGHT THIS WAS GOING TO BE JUST YOU AND ME. YOU KNOW, A COUPLE OF BROS FIGHTING THE BAD GUYS, HAVING A FEW LAUGHS--

EXCUSE ME? I'M MORE HIS "BRO" THAN ANYONE, SO DON'T EVEN--

Which is why, lucky me, I got their calls.

GUYS--TAKE A BREATH. WHY ARE WE HERE? WHAT'S THE REASON?

TO STOP THE LEAGUE OF ASSASSINS.

WHOA--IS THAT WHO'S BEHIND ALL THIS? I TOLD YOU I WAS ONTO SOMETHING SERIOUS!



--ROBIN, MOVE!



GOTCHA.

KEZ

PLEASE
DON'T TELL ME
ARSENAL JUST
SAVED MY LIFE. THAT
DIDN'T JUST
HAPPEN.

WORRY
ABOUT IT
LATER!

NOW, THAT
BOAT DOCKED
AHEAD, THAT'S THE
ONE WE NEED TO
GET ON, RIGHT?
YOU BOTH
AGREE?

THAT'S
THE ONE.

AS FAR
AS I KNOW,
YEAH.

HEY, WATCH WHERE
YOU'RE DOING
YOUR LITTLE NINJA
TRICKS.

YOU'RE
A LITTLE TOO
CLOSE.

NO,
YOU'RE
TOO CLOSE
TO ME.

I'M TELLING YOU FOR
THE LAST TIME--STAY
OUT OF MY FIGHTING
SPACE!

OR WHAT?!
I CAN'T COME OVER
TO PLAY *LEGOS*
ANYMORE?!

Great. In the course of
an hour, I've gone from
"regular guy enjoying a
relaxing night" to "dad to
two bickering children."

BOYS,
BOYS...

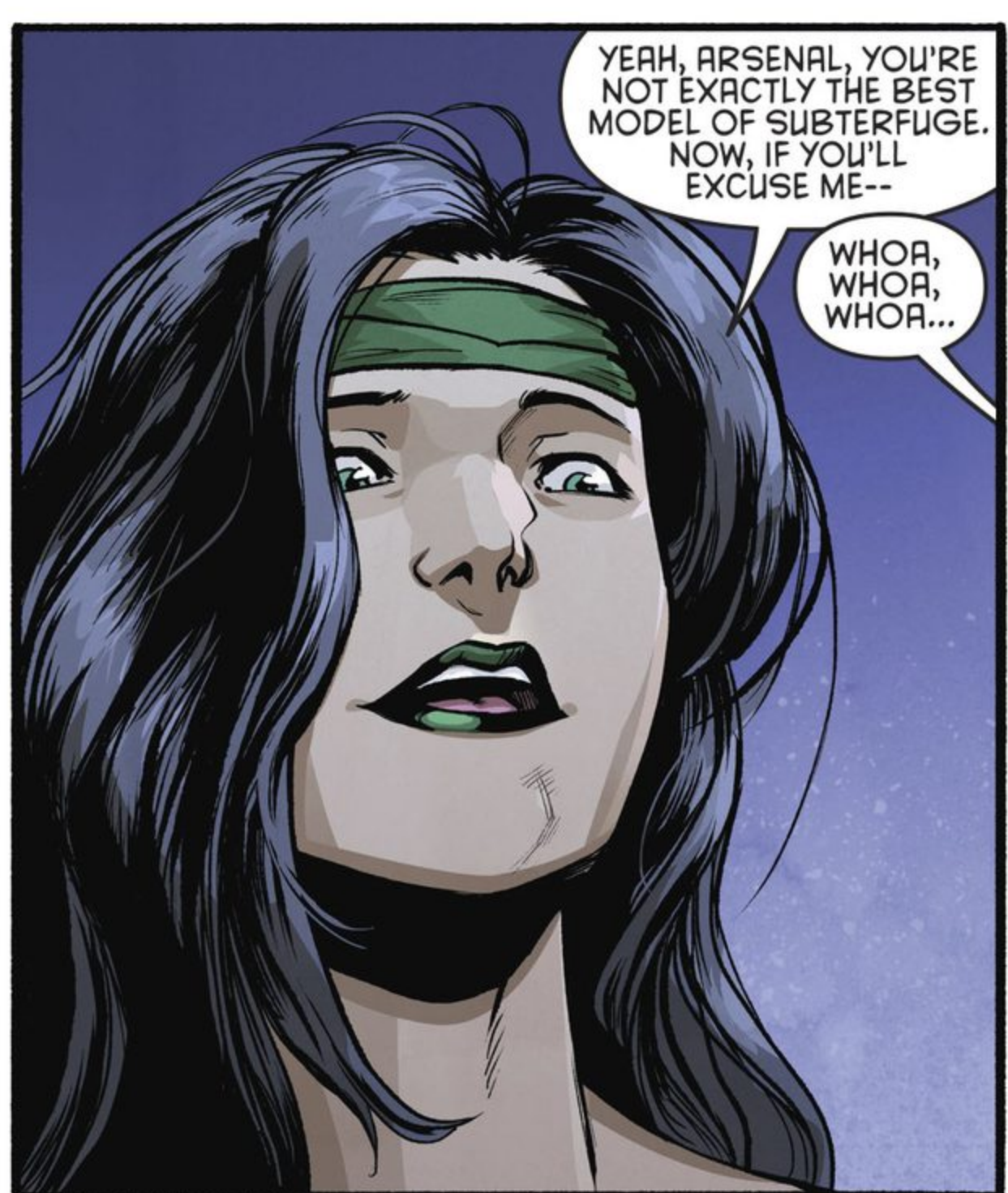


...TROUBLE KEEPING IT TOGETHER? AND WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOU THREE CALLING YOURSELVES, ANYWAY? THE *SIDEKICKERS*?



OH, WHOA, *CHESHIRE*! I'M TOTALLY SHOCKED YOU'RE BEHIND THIS! LOOK AT MY FACE--*SHOCKED*!

YOU'VE GOT TO BE *KIDDING* ME! YOU'VE BEEN TRACKING DOWN YOUR *GIRLFRIEND*?



YEAH, ARSENAL, YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY THE BEST MODEL OF SUBTERFUGE. NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME--

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA...

...PLEASE TELL ME YOU DIDN'T CALL ME OUT HERE TO HELP YOU WORK ON YOUR *RELATIONSHIP* ISSUES.

KEEP IT DOWN, BRO. I DON'T WANT *HER* KNOWING THAT.

AND WHAT'S "SUBTERFUGE" MEAN?

ROY, COME ON, MAN.



GOOD LUCK, BOYS--



--TIME
FOR US TO
GO.

FWASH



THIS IS GOING
REALLY, *REALLY*
WELL. GLAD I
MADE IT OUT
FOR THIS.

MAYBE
IT'D BE GOING
A *LITTLE* BETTER IF
ALL OF US ACTUALLY
KNEW WHAT WE
WERE GETTING
INTO.



LOOK, KID, I'M A
PATIENT GUY, BUT YOU
KEEP PUSHING ME
AND--

AND
WHAT?

ALL RIGHT,
ENOUGH!

LOOK--IF YOU
GUYS CAN'T STOP
ARGUING, I'M GOING
TO CANCEL THIS
TEAM-UP AND WE'LL
ALL GO HOME.
GOT ME?

*Raaaaand
I'm officially
my dad.*



DAMIAN, YOU SAID YOU'D BEEN
TRACKING THE LEAGUE, LEADING
YOU HERE.

ROY--

I'D BEEN LOOKING
INTO THE DEVELOPMENT
OF SOME KIND OF
SUPER-WEAPON, AND
IT TRACED TO THIS
BOAT.



SO, THE
TWO PIECES
FIT. BUT...

...CHESHIRE AND
THE ASSASSINS
WOULDN'T JUST GIVE
THE BOAT AND ITS
CARGO UP SO
EASILY.

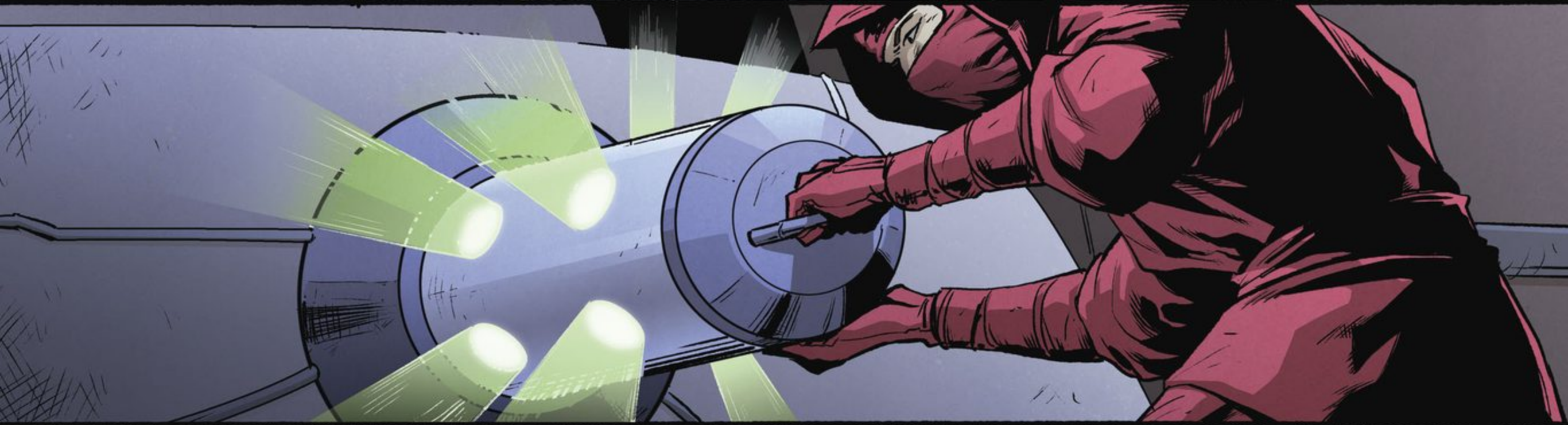
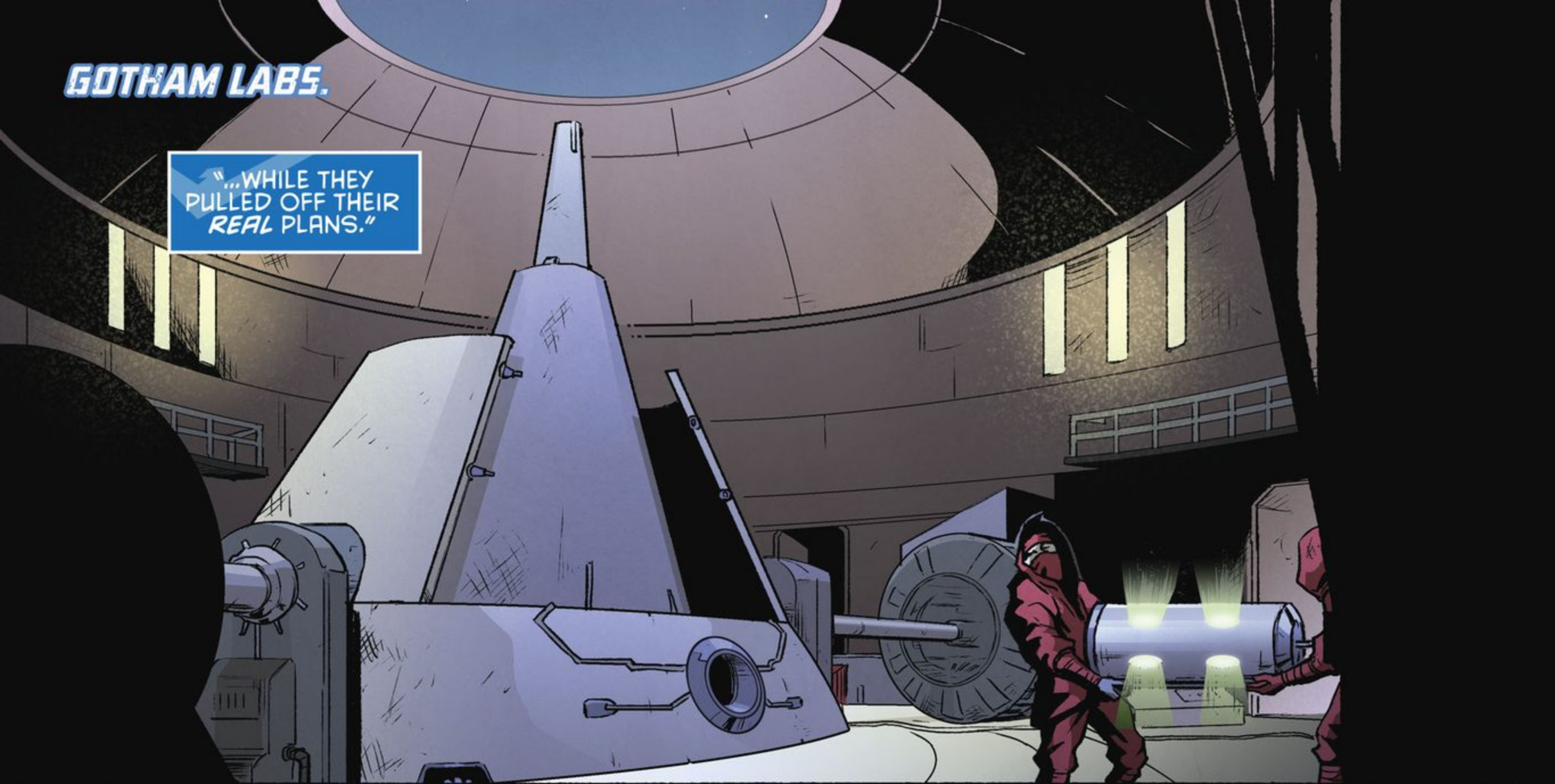


UNLESS
THE SHIP WAS
A *DECOY*.

THE LEAGUE
WANTED AS MANY
OF US LOOKING
THE OTHER
DIRECTION...

GOTHAM LABS.

"...WHILE THEY
PULLED OFF THEIR
REAL PLANS."



BOOOOOM

WHAT
THE--

THE BEAM...
IT'S COVERING
THE *ENTIRE*
CITY.

ROY,
WHAT DID
YOU SAY THIS
WEAPON
DID?

WELL, THAT...THAT'S
NOT GOING TO BE
NEWS YOU WANT
TO HEAR.

RIGHT NOW, THE WEAPON IS
SATURATING THE ATMOSPHERE WITH
P.E.P. CARBOXYLASE AND *RuBiSCO*.
THAT MEANS ALL THE OXYGEN IS
GETTING SUCKED UP. IN ABOUT AN
HOUR, GOTHAM'S AIR IS GOING
TO BE *UNBREATHABLE*.

SO PEOPLE CAN'T
BREATHE AND THEY
ONLY HAVE A SHORT
WINDOW OF TIME
TO GET OUT.

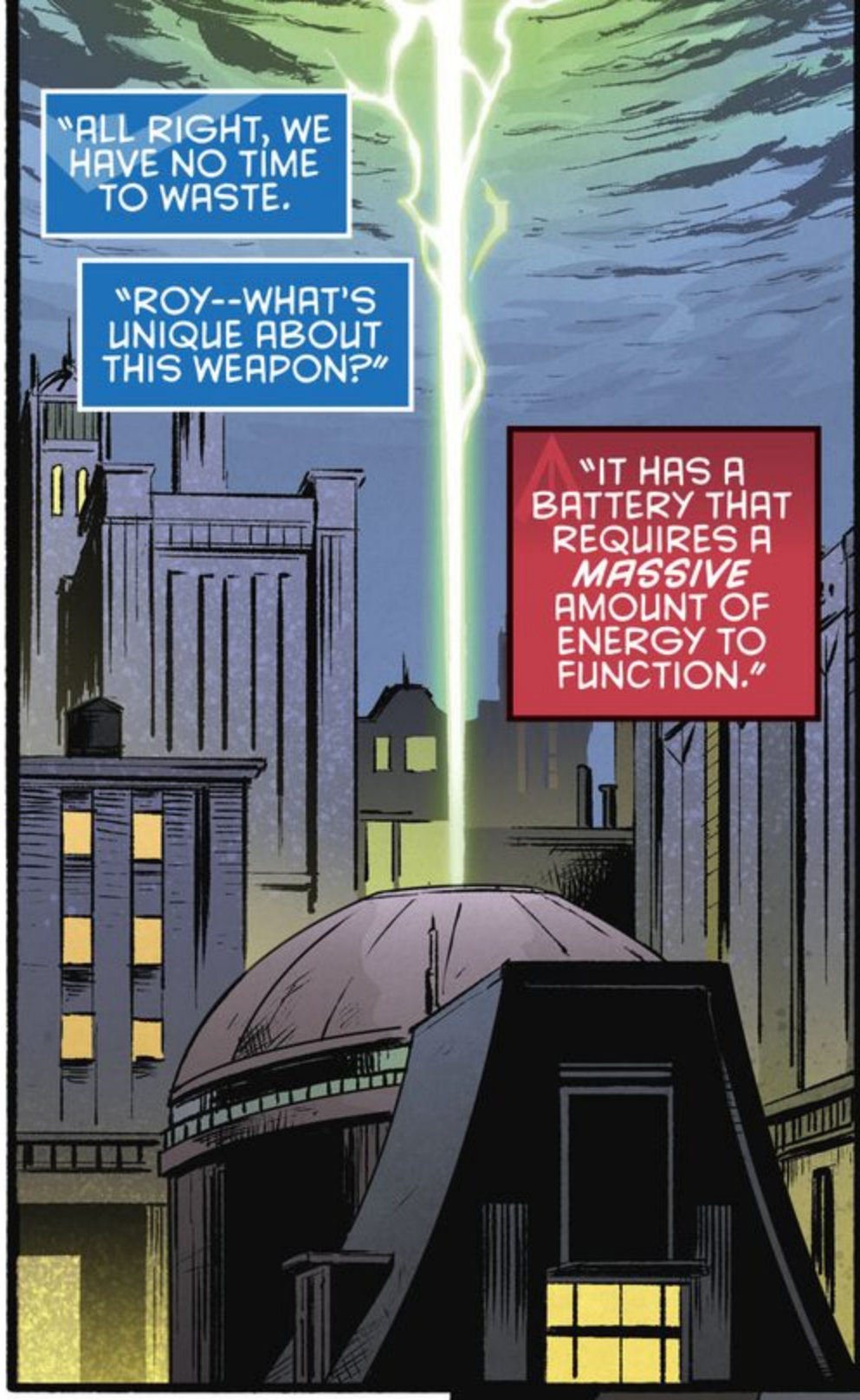
ONLY THE
STRONG SURVIVE
AND ESCAPE--
CLASSIC LEAGUE
MOVE.

IT'S ALSO A
CLASSIC LEAGUE
MOVE TO THROW
DECOYS IN YOUR
PATH.

THIS WAS SO
OBVIOUS, BUT I WAS
JUST...I WAS RUSHING
TO GET THIS MISSION
DONE, AND I GOT
SLOPPY.

GUYS...
I DROPPED THE
BALL, AND I'M
SORRY.

BUT WE
STILL HAVE
A CHANCE TO
MAKE THIS
RIGHT.



"ALL RIGHT, WE HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE."

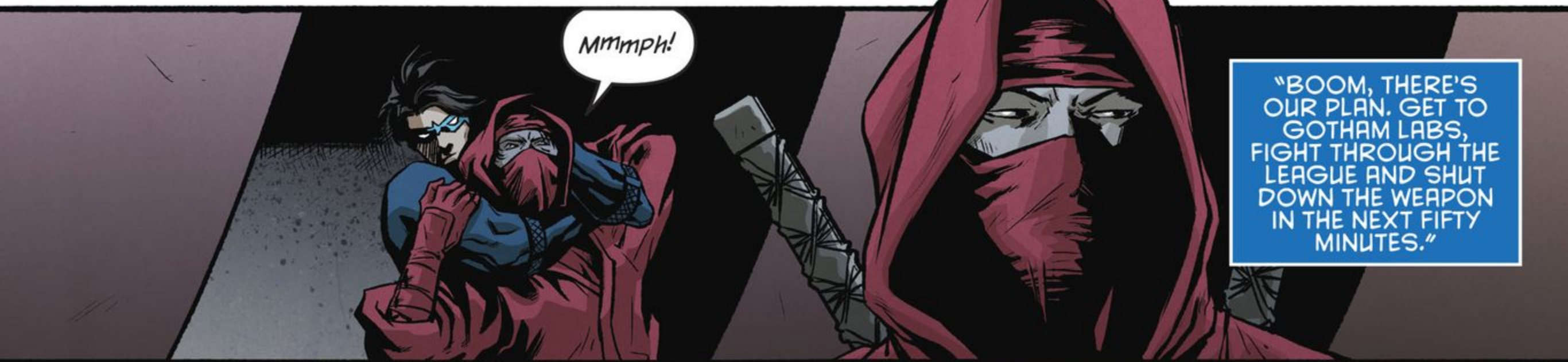
"ROY--WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THIS WEAPON?"

"IT HAS A BATTERY THAT REQUIRES A **MASSIVE** AMOUNT OF ENERGY TO FUNCTION."



"SIPHONED FROM SOMETHING LIKE THE MINICOLLIDER AT GOTHAM LABS?"

"YEAH, THE COLLIDER WOULD DEFINITELY DO IT."



Mmmph!

"BOOM, THERE'S OUR PLAN. GET TO GOTHAM LABS, FIGHT THROUGH THE LEAGUE AND SHUT DOWN THE WEAPON IN THE NEXT FIFTY MINUTES."



BONK



KILTZT



THANKS FOR THE ASSIST.

ANYTIME.

ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO CAN WRITE A POEM ABOUT IT LA--

--NNNGGGHHH!

ROBIN, ARE YOU--

I'M FINE. JUST...
~huff huff~
GETTING HARD TO BREATHE.

IT'S THE NITROGEN.

WITH LESS OXYGEN IN THE AIR, WE'RE SUCKING IN MORE **NITROGEN**--WHICH, AS WE BREATHE IT, IS **ASPHYXIATING** US.

IT'S NOT LETHAL, NOT YET, BUT IT'S NOT PLEASANT EITHER. AND IT'S MORE POTENT ON SMALLER LUNGS, **WITHOUT QUESTION.**

THEN WE BETTER GET TO WORK. SO...

...HOW DO WE **DESTROY** THIS THING?

THAT'S THE PROBLEM. IF WE STRAIGHT-UP DESTROY IT, THE ENERGY **MIGHT** BECOME UNSTABLE AND ERUPT. WE DON'T WANT THAT.

BUT--BUT-- IF I CAN GET THE COLLIDER RUNNING, WE CAN OVERLOAD THE BATTERY, AND, IN THEORY, IT'LL SHUT THE ENTIRE WEAPON DOWN.

I JUST NEED A **DISTRACTION** WHILE I GET THE COLLIDER OPERATIONAL.

LEAVE THAT TO ME.







Um,
LITTLE HELP
HERE!

HEY!



>Huff huff<
YOU'VE DONE
ME A BIG FAVOR,
WHETHER YOU
LIKE IT OR
NOT.



BECAUSE
NOW...

...WE'RE EVEN. AND WE
NEVER SPEAK OF
THIS AGAIN.

GREAT, BUT WE
HAVE A BIG PROBLEM.
I DIDN'T GET THE
WEAPON CUT OFF FROM
THE COLLIDER IN TIME--
WE'RE ABOUT TO HIT
CRITICAL MASS.

THIS
ENTIRE PLACE
IS GOING TO
BLOW.



NIGHTWING,
WE HAVE TO GET
OUT OF HERE!
AND I MEAN
NOW!

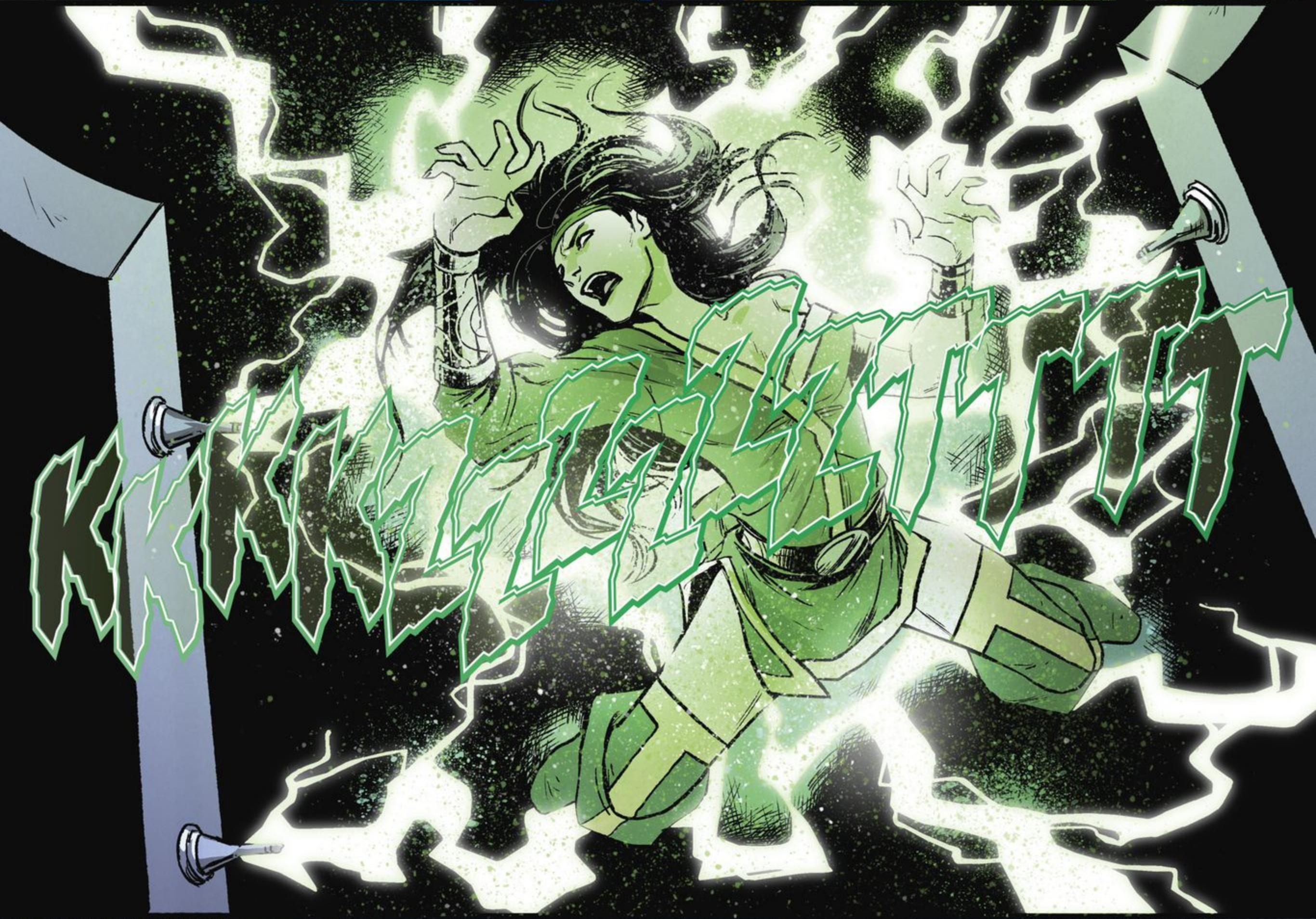
YOU HEAR
THAT? YOU HEAR
THE **DEFEAT** IN HIS
VOICE? BATMAN
WOULDN'T LET HIS
FRIENDS DIE,
WOULD HE?

FACE IT--
YOU DON'T
HAVE WHAT
IT **TAKES**.

I'M
SURE YOU
THINK SO, BUT
HERE'S THE
THING--



--UNDER NO
CIRCUMSTANCES
WILL I **EVER** ALLOW
ANYONE TO HURT
THE PEOPLE I CARE
ABOUT.







BLÜDHAVEN.
THE NEXT NIGHT.

Sure, Bruce will never be free because he's always needed.

AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE TAKING THE NIGHT OFF?!

As Batman, he's made it a point to answer every call, and it's one of the many, *many* reasons I admire him.

RIGHT? I THOUGHT THE ENTIRE REASON FOR US BEING HERE WAS SO YOU CAN WATCH NETFLIX AND SIT ON YOUR ASS.

YEAH, AND YOU BOTH ALSO KEEP MISUNDERSTANDING WHAT NETFLIX AND CHILL MEANS.

And while it's great to be a person that others can rely on, a person they need...

...I've learned that it's okay to need them, too.

That's what friends are for, right?

I'VE GOT GUNRUNNERS, MONEY LAUNDERERS, A MAD SCIENTIST...THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN. IT'S ALMOST LIKE I'M DOING *YOU* THE FAVOR.

SEE? IF WE JUST WENT WITH MY TEAM-UP IDEA, THIS WHOLE THING WOULD BE *WAY* MORE CASUAL.

REMIND ME TO NEVER ASK EITHER OF YOU FOR ANYTHING. EVER.

Eh, WHO NEEDS NETFLIX WHEN I HAVE YOU TWO?

NOW LET'S STAY FOCUSED. I HAVE A *FULL* AGENDA FOR TONIGHT.

ISN'T THAT ASKING US FOR SOMETHING?

YOU KNOW, JUST WHEN I WAS *KIND* OF COMING AROUND ON YOU...

THE END

THREE BRAND-NEW STORIES THAT SET-UP
DC'S BIGGEST EVENTS OF 2018!

DC NATION #0

BATMAN

TOM KING • CLAY MANN

JUSTICE LEAGUE
NO JUSTICE

SCOTT SNYDER
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THE MAN OF STEEL

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS
JOSÉ LUIS GARCÍA-LÓPEZ

Cover by JORGE JIMÉNEZ

DC
UNIVERSE

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS THIS
AMAZING SPECIAL EDITION!

MAY 2



BENDIS IS COMING!

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS on MAN OF STEEL

It's a tremendous honor to be writing a character who exudes hope at a time when people really, really need it.

THE MAN OF STEEL is a super-big weekly event. It's six issues written by me and every single issue is being drawn by one of the greatest DC artists working today...who are also some

of the greatest DC artists of all time. I'm very honored to be doing my first project with all of these artists, most of whom I've never worked with before. The only artist I've worked with before is

Kevin Maguire and I wouldn't do this without him because I think he's one of the greatest DC artists of all time. But then I get to launch with Ivan Reis, Evan "Doc" Shaner, Jason Fabok and others who've done amazing runs with the character or who've been waiting to do "something special" with the character.

We will debut a huge new villain, a blockbuster villain who connects deeply to Superman's origin story and to his birthright. One of my goals is to be as additive to Superman and Metropolis as possible. The characters we debut right away, including this new villain, will send ripples of shock across the entire Superman family and beyond!

Writing Superman in today's day and age is such a powerful experience. We live in a world where we've heard "truth, justice and the American Way" our whole lives, right? But this is the first time, in my lifetime, those things are really not to be taken for granted. Truth is sometimes under siege; justice is, we all now know, sadly not always for everybody; and the American Dream, the American way of everybody coming here to live a free, safe and healthy life—these are ideas we always took for granted, but now we don't. We can't! No matter where you are politically, we just don't take these things for granted anymore.

I don't know about you but I could certainly use Superman right now. I could use some of that hope he brings with him. It's a tremendous honor to be writing a character who exudes hope at a time when people really, really need it.



Don't miss **MAN OF STEEL #1** on sale **May 30!**



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